Seizure of arms and explosives by Coast Guard

†*336. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of objectionable goods/weapons recovered from coastal areas of Tamil Nadu by Indian Coast Guard from January 2006, till date:

(b) the countries from where these weapons were procured/being sent to; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The Coast Guard has apprehended 21.29 kgs of heroin, 17.3 kgs of brown sugar, one AK-56 Rifle, 124 rounds of ammunition, 5 hand grenades, one suicidal belt (RDX), 5 detonators and concealed explosives weighing 500-750 kg (approximately) during the period from January 2006 to February 2007 in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu.

It is not easy to determine the exact source of these weapons and their ultimate destination.

The security and surveillance apparatus in India'a territorial waters and exclusive economic zone has been enhanced substantially over the years. The improvement of such an apparatus, based on felt need is an on-going process. Such measures are regularly updated by the Indian Navy and the Coast Guard in coordination with other concerned agencies.

Improving village infrastructure

*337. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are improving village infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, during the last three years;

(c) the amount allocated and utilized for the same; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.